

## Message Text

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ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-08 INR-07 LAB-04  
NSAE-00 SIL-01 DODE-00 PA-01 USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02  
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R 260951Z JAN 78  
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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1942

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E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: ELAB, PGOV, GH  
SUBJ: TSC STAND ON UNION GOVERNMENT

1. THE FRONT PAGE OF THE GHANAIAI TIMES JANUARY 24  
FEATURED GHANA TRADES UNION CONGRESS (TUC) PRESS  
RELEASE ON REGIME-SPONSORED UNION GOVERNMENT. THE  
STATEMENT, THE FULL TEXT OF WHICH IS BEING POUCHED,  
INCLUDES TUC EXECUTIVE BOARD ENDORSEMENT OF THE CON-  
CEPT OF UNION GOVERNMENT. THE STATEMENT REITERATES  
THE DECEMBER 1976 POSITION OF TUC SECRETARY GENERAL  
ISSIFU THAT UNION GOVERNMENT SHOULD INCLUDE BROAD  
PARTICIPATION AND THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A MASS MOVE-  
MENT TO MOBILIZE GHANAIAIS. THE PRESS RELEASE ALSO  
REPEATS COMMITMENT TO SOCIALIST FORM OF DEVELOPMENT  
AS MOST SUITABLE FOR GHANA.

2. TUC STATEMENT CRITICIZES THE REPORT OF THE AD  
HOC COMMITTEE ON UNION GOVERNMENT ON TWO POINTS.  
TUC EXECUTIVE BOARD TAKES POSITION THAT COUNCIL OF  
STATE SHOULD NOT BE WEIGHTED IN FAVOR OF ANY ONE GROUP,  
E.G., TRADITIONAL CHIEFS AND MILITARY. OTHER CHANGE  
PROPOSED BY TUC WOULD REQUIRE MILITARY OR CIVIL SERVANTS  
APPOINTED TO MINISTERIAL JOBS TO RESIGN, RATHER THAN  
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BE SECONDED, AS SET FORTH IN THE AD HOC COMMITTEE  
REPORT.

3. THE PRESS RELEASE ALSO MENTIONS A CRASH EDUCATIONAL  
PROGRAM FOR UNION OFFICIALS AND THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A  
SEVEN-MEMBER COMMITTEE TO RECOMMEND REORGANIZATION  
OF THE TUC TO MEET THE CHANGING POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC

SITUATION. THESE EFFORTS WILL BE THE SUBJECT OF  
FUTURE REPORTING.

4. COMMENT: THE TUC'S SUPPORT OF UNION GOVERNMENT,  
HOWEVER QUALIFIED, ADDS A KEY GROUP TO THOSE IN FAVOR  
OF THE REGIME'S PROPOSAL. THE FACTORS BEHIND THE  
APPARENT TUC ENDORSEMENT OF UNION GOVERNMENT INCLUDE  
THE TRADITIONALLY PRO-LABOR STAND OF THE ACHEAMPONG  
REGIME. SPECIFICALLY, LABOR WAS THE PRIME BENEFICIARY  
OF THE SWEEPING WAGE INCREASES THAT WERE RETROACTIVE  
TO JULY 1, 1977. WHAT THE PRESS NEGLECTED TO NOTE  
IS THE POSSIBLE CONFLICT BETWEEN THE TUC'S VIEW OF  
UNION GOVERNMENT AND THAT OF THE GOG.

5. SPONSORS OF UNION GOVERNMENT SAY IT WILL DO AWAY  
WITH THE EVILS OF PARTY POLITICS, WHILE LABOR CALLS  
FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A MASS MOVEMENT. THE TUC  
STATEMENT IS CONSISTENT WITH ISSUFUS EARLIER VIEWS  
OF SNION GOVERNMENT AND LABOR'S DISTRUST OF THE  
PROFESSIONALS, WHO OPPOSE UNION GOVERNMENT. A SENIOR TUC OFFICIAL  
NOTED THAT BY WORKING FROM WITHIN, LABOR CAN INFLUENCE  
UNION GOVERNMENT, THE ADOPTION OF WHICH SEEMS INEVITABLE IN THE  
MARCH 30 REFERENDUM. SMITH

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** PRESS COMMENTS, FORM OF GOVERNMENT, LABOR UNIONS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 26 jan 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
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**Film Number:** D780041-1002  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**SAS ID:** 3713218  
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**Review Markings:**  
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